

10. The Forest demarcation in Sind has been practically completed and the Forest Settlement Officer's Establishment will be broken up during the hot weather.

11. The total expenditure including the salaries of the Office Establishment of the Forest Settlement and Demarcation Officer in Sind incurred during the year under report in the creation and constitution of forests amounted to Rs. 2,562-9-2.

12. The demarcation of forests in the Kashmor Taluka has been postponed, but by agreement between the Deputy Commissioner, Upper Sind Frontier, and the Conservator, with the sanction of the Commissioner in Sind, the extensive jungles in the taluka are left under the protection of the Forest Department till such time as it will be advisable to undertake regular demarcation; perhaps after the introduction of the Revenue Survey Settlement.

CHAPTER II.

SURVEYS, WORKING PLANS AND ANNUAL PLANS OF OPERATIONS.

13. The survey of the forests on a scale of four inches to the mile has been continued. The progress made has not been as great as it might have been, owing to the work of the only Surveyor procurable being broken into by the necessity for sending him up to the Kashmor Taluka to make surveys of two tracts of land that it was intended to take up for Forest purposes.

The surveys of Forests prosecuted are as under :—

Phatah.....	258 acres.
Khadi	4,500 „
Laikpur	7,406 „
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Total...	12,164 „
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14. The plan of working out the compartments for fuel in succession and closing them for reproduction, has been adhered to in respect of the forests generally, but in the Laikpur forest, a working plan the details of which are given below, has been introduced tentatively.

The Laikpur Forest is one some distance from the river and having a very precarious water-supply, produces chiefly Kandi but is capable of yielding much material for Railway fuel. Its distance from the river, however, makes it expensive to work. To get the wood cut and delivered at paying rates and at the same time to get water on the land for the general benefit of the forest the following arrangement has been made with a Zamindar. He undertakes to clear the compartments in succession of all the Kandi on them and deliver the wood resulting from the fellings at Kotri at a fixed rate. He is to be permitted to cultivate the land cleared for two seasons. He makes his own arrangements for water and pays the usual land assessment. At the end of the second year he is to fence in one compartment and receive another to clear and cultivate, and the same the following year, so that every year one compartment will be cleared, and another that has been watered for two seasons, closed, for reproduction. The agreement to cease if the Zamindar does not abide strictly by it and work in the interests of the Department.

The Zamindar has worked well so far, and as Kandī coppice raised in this way is always very satisfactory I have every reason to believe the plan will be highly successful.

15. The boundaries of the new Reserves have been laid down by a cleared path 20 feet wide and earth cairns with a post in the middle at each bend and at every five chains along the straight. The brushwood resulting from the clearing of the boundary-path is thrown up as a fence on the inner edge of the boundary-path and as far as practicable simultaneously with the laying down of the boundaries the forests have been cut up into compartments.

One hundred and eighty-four miles of compartment lines have been cut and the boundaries of the following Reserves laid down:—

Raheki.	Phaka.
Reti.	Noabad.
Rangoo.	Bhan.
Narli.	Gidārji.
Dangar.	Messa.
Phati Bilawal.	Khathar.

CHAPTER III.—PROTECTION AND IMPROVEMENT.

SECTION I.—ESTABLISHMENTS.

16. Mr. Tuljaram was appointed Sub-Assistant Conservator of Forests on the 24th August 1886.

No other change has taken place in the permanent protection or office establishment of the Sind Circle, and I have nothing particular to note under this head.

SECTION II.—GENERAL PROTECTION AND BREACHES OF FOREST LAW.

17. The general protection of the forests as evidenced by their condition and the reports of the Divisional Forest Officers is very good, and the conduct of the Protective Staff on the whole has been satisfactory.

18. The following table shows the number of cases tried before Magistrates, with results:—

Name of Division.	Number of cases tried before Magistrates.		Number of convictions.	
	1885-86.	1886-87.	1885-86.	1886-87.
Sukkur	23	20	7	12
Jacobabad	41	18	12	13
Naushahro	14	4	6	9
Hyderabad	16	15	11	12
Jerruck	4	1	1	1
Total...	98	58	37	47